

Positive Alternatives 2014 - 15 Quarterly Update

Grantee: EPIPHANY CARING FOR LIFE

Goal: Provide pregnancy support services to pregnant women and families in Anoka County

For the period: April 1 – June 30, 2015

Activity or Service	Activity or Service Description Major Work Plan Activities	Work Plan Count	Program Progress and Accomplishments Report the progress and accomplishments made this period on each activity.	Report Count
Administrative Activities	Service Coordinator: Provide guidance to grant staff, attend grant meetings, complete grant forms; manage grant funds and program donations; schedule/report meetings; recruit, screen and train volunteer; update guidelines and protocols; track baby equipment supply/requests/recalls, develop resources to expand supply; track housing resources and emergency shelter availability; reorganize and update baby closet		Tracked distribution and purchased additional pack and plays. Collected donation items and coordinated scheduling for putting together new mom gift bags with Epiphany faith formation program (4/22). Meeting with Accounting Dept. to discuss entering tax exempt number into master business file (4/30). Delivered double stroller to a client with two children staying at the Alexandra House and picked up new Anoka County Resource guide (5/12). Meeting with parish administration to discuss current program status and space issues (6/12). Site visit with new grant director (6/25).	
Administrative Activities	Client Service Advocate: maintain client tracking program and database and review for possible updating; recruit, train and evaluate care line volunteers; administer Hotline; review intakes; update training manuals; update volunteers regarding policies, procedures and resources; coordinate companion education/training, provide speakers, communicate/support companion, assess companion support and client satisfaction; coordinate Angel Wings miscarriage support program and volunteers; investigate and develop social media; investigate and develop new fundraising options		Attended training (4/11) on using mindfulness to reduce stress during pregnancy. Networked with 4-Keeps and Help Me Grow early intervention (4/22), provided information about our services. Trained in a new mentoring companion (5/15). Site visit with new grant director (6/25). Continue to manage social media presence on Facebook to provide additional support to clients and outreach to potential clients. Began working with parish administration to have Epiphany entered into the IRS master business file (4/30).	

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Administrative Activities	Support Assistant: Procure car seats; review and update baby bed and car seat application protocols, and guidelines; provide assistance in completing financial assistance applications; schedule and meet new clients regarding Safe Sleep education and car seat safety, provide additional resources as needed		The support assistant continued to review and provide support to clients in filling out applications for qualifying programs. Distributed pack and plays and sleep safety education and car seats and car safety education. Participated in supervising faith formation project to create new mom gift bags (4/22)	
Outreach	Increase community access and visibility; continue community education and maintain contacts		CSA networked with 4-Keeps and Help Me Grow early intervention (4/22), provided information about services. The support assistant connected with two parent support advocates about our services and their challenges (5/14).	
Car Seat Program	Provide car seat education and installation training to clients	6	Reviewed and provided support to clients for 8 car seat applications. Distributed car seats and car seat safety education to 1 client.	1
Case Management Services	Client Service Advocate (CSA) provides assessment and support; follow- up regarding need for necessary services; provide additional information and support.	50	Provided case management services to 79 clients, through follow up calls and continued mentoring. Helped 2 clients who were initially abortion minded connect with counseling resources. Provided support and referral information on adoption services to 1 client. Provided continued emotional support to 3 clients without any local family support.	79
Crib Distribution/ Sleep Safety Education	Review applications and distribute pack and plays and cribs to qualifying clients; provide Sleep Safety Education to clients receiving baby beds.	8	Reviewed 27 pack and play applications with clients. Distributed a pack and play and safe sleep education to 8 qualifying clients.	8
Financial Assistance	Assist clients in completing financial assistance applications; provide food gift cards for specialty formula or diapers and gas cards for transportation to school/ work	17	The support assistant reviewed 36 financial applications and called clients back to confirm information and help with the completion of applications.	36

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Hotline	Provide 24 hour care line for personal support; offer necessary services to callers	10	The CSA answered 128 calls total, and 10 clients received necessary service information through the hotline only.	10
Material Support	Provide baby and maternity clothing and other items for pregnant and parenting women	15	Sixty-six clients visited the baby closet and received material support.	66
Mentoring Program	Provide long term support to clients through trained companions/mentors.	2	Three clients received extensive long term emotional support from the CSA. One client received guidance for finding housing and parenting support from a new companion mentor.	4
Nutrition	Provide baby food and formula; provide food shelf assistance	4	Seventeen clients received nutrition support; 10 requested formula and 13 requested baby food. One client received a baby bullet baby food maker for continued nutrition support.	17
Provide Necessary Services Assessments Only	Staff provides clients only intake assessments, information on, referral to and assistance with securing necessary services	10	Provided intake assessments only and assistance through referrals to 12 clients.	12
Transportation	Provide transportation resources to clients and gas cards to qualified clients	15	Thirty-three clients received transportation resources.	33

Maternal and Child Health Initiative Task Force Strategies	No.
<i>Number of women who received car seats and car seat safety education from a PA funded program activity</i>	1
<i>Number of women who received car seat safety education only from a PA funded program activity</i>	33

Maternal and Child Health Initiative Task Force Strategies	No.
<i>Number of women who received child abuse prevention education from a PA funded program activity</i>	33
<i>Number of women who received abusive head trauma (shaken baby) prevention education from a PA funded program activity</i>	33
<i>Number of women who received a baby bed, crib, or pack-n-play and sleep safety education from a PA funded program activity</i>	8
<i>Number of women who received sleep safety education only from a PA funded program activity</i>	33

Challenges:

Car seat program numbers were lower than predicted this quarter. Reasons for this include a large number of clients requesting pack n plays instead of car seats requiring grant money to be redistributed, most clients who applied for car seats were not due until August so they would not receive a car seat via program guidelines until July, and a larger number of car seats were distributed in quarter three.

Comments: